

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

Figs. 2, 5b and 6b have been amended. The attached sheets of formal drawings replace the original sheets including Figs. 1-6b. No new matter has been added.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings on the ground that they did not show the claimed plurality of hooks. Enclosed are amended figures (Fig.2, 5b, 6b), wherein lines point from the reference numeral 3 to the claimed "plurality" of hooks.

Rejections under 35 USC § 112

In order to overcome the rejections raised under this title, a new set of claims 10-24 are enclosed in replacement of the original claims. No new matter is introduced.

Rejections under 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-3 were rejected as obvious over JP '806 in view of SU '975; and over Leblond in view of SU '975. The arguments set forth under § 103 appear moot in view of the amended claims.

New claim 10 relates to a crushing device comprising at least one rotor having hooks projecting radially therefrom and at least one stator having crushing elements co-operating with the hooks for achieving said crushing, stator having very simple plate-like crushing elements (see e.g. claims 15 and 16) fixed thereon and the plate-like crushing elements typically having a triangular or square cross-sectional area, an improvement over the state of the art being that the stator can be moved in the direction towards the rotor (i.e. to get closer to the rotor hooks) and additionally can be twisted around its stator axis, i.e., in order to select one lateral edge of said flat triangular or square crushing elements for engaging with the hooks rotating very closely by said crushing elements.

In the embodiment claimed in new claim 11, the stator is moveable essentially in all directions, i.e. thus allowing for almost unlimited variability in stator adjustment. The advantages of such a variability in stator adjustment, e.g. being able to replace a worn-out cutting edge of a crushing element by simply twisting the stator around its axis for an angle sufficient to select the next cutting edge, or adjusting the distance of the stator axis relative to the rotor axis or of the crushing elements between the hooks in axial direction, have been described at length in the originally filed specification e.g. at pages 3 - 6 and 9.

None of the cited prior art references discloses or renders obvious a stator as claimed in new claim 11. The references cited in the ISR have already been successfully argued around during the

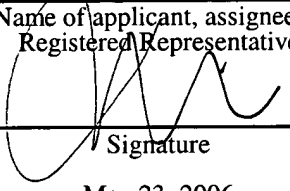
international phase, while the newly cited references do not add anything more relevant to the topic.

None of the cited references contains any incentive for modifying a known shredding device using elements disclosed in another reference to arrive at the present invention claimed in claim 10. US 5,697,562 (Leblond) discloses a rock crusher which does not contain a stator.

It is therefore submitted that the invention of claims 10-24 is both novel and inventive. Allowance is requested.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 23, 2006:

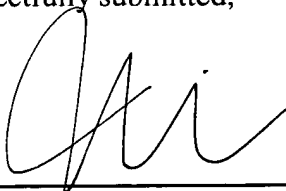
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Name of applicant, assignee or
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Signature
May 23, 2006

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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